

# ♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

Volume 18 Issue 1

Published Quarterly by the Lamoine Town Office

July 2012

## Voters OK RSU 24 Withdrawal Process

(Lamoine) - Lamoine bucked the low turnout trend for the June 12, 2012 primary vote thanks to the question to start the withdrawal process from RSU 24 that was on a local ballot. Just over 25% of Lamoine's 1,430 registered voters turned out to cast ballots and passed the measure 223 to 143. The vote sets aside \$15,000 to study and draw up a withdrawal plan from the Regional School Unit formed by Lamoine and 11-other Hancock and Washington County municipalities just 3-years ago.

### What Are the Issues

In a nutshell—local control matters seem to be the overwhelming issue. Prior to joining RSU 24, Lamoine elected its own school board which ran the Lamoine Consolidated School, shared a superintendent with 8-other towns (four of which are part of RSU 24), and had direct control over hiring and policy matters. The RSU provides for a representative from each community (three from Ellsworth), and each carries a weighted vote. While the town adopted a Local School Advisory Committee, the 4-person board is simply that—advisory.

Dr. Gordon Donaldson, a vocal proponent of the withdrawal vote, member of the Local School Advisory Committee, and petition circulator, thinks the school can function better with a different form of governance. Donaldson told the several hearings prior to the vote that the Local School Advisory Committee is eager to explore an Alternative Organizational Structure similar to that used on Mt. Desert Island where each community retains a local school board and a joint board employs the superintendent of schools and the central office. The setup is very similar to the former School Union Lamoine was part of.

As the vote outcome can attest, the feeling of the town about withdrawing from the RSU is far from unanimous. Selectman Richard Fennelly Jr. devoted many hours of research into the costs of the RSU and trying to compare with the previous tax burden prior to joining. He noted that Lamoine's property tax for education has been extremely stable since the formation of RSU 24, while at the same time the town became a minimal receiver of state funds. Fennelly argues that if Lamoine joins a small organization, an extraordinary cost such as special education would be spread out over a smaller base, and could end up costing property taxpayers significantly more.

### We're Not Alone

Two other RSU 24 towns voted the same day on withdrawal, and overwhelmingly approved starting the process. Both Ellsworth and Hancock will follow a similar path in forming a new plan, and the chances are that the towns will work closely together. Voters from both communities met frequently during the campaign.

### What's Next

The town has informed the RSU Superintendent and the Commissioner of Education about the vote. A withdrawal committee will meet July 10, 2012 and draw up a withdrawal plan which must be completed and submitted to the state education commissioner within 90 days after its formation. The commissioner must sign off on some sort of plan and set a vote for the town to accept it. RSU 24 Representative Brett Jones, Selectman Gary McFarland, petitioner Gordon Donaldson and member of the public Douglas Stewart will serve on that committee. It's not clear when a final plan and vote can be expected.

## Code Enforcement Officer Steps Down

(Lamoine) - The Selectmen received notice from Code Enforcement Officer Dennis Ford that he wished to not be reappointed when his term in office expired June 30th. Mr. Ford began as the deputy Code Enforcement Officer in August of 2003 working with then Code Officer John Holdsworth. In June, 2004, Ford took over as the Code Enforcement Officer (CEO), Local Plumbing Inspector (LPI) and Building Inspector (BI) following the death of Mr. Holdsworth, and has held the job ever since on a part time basis.

The Selectmen will advertise for a replacement for Ford, who will serve as the interim CEO, LPI and BI until such time as the Selectmen select a replacement. Applications are due by July 9, 2012, and a search committee will interview candidates after that. The search committee includes Selectmen Brann and Cooper and Planning Board Members Don Bamman and Perry Fowler. Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon will coordinate the search process.

The new code officer has up to one year to become state certified following appointment.

## June Davis gets Custody of Post Cane

(Lamoine) - Long time resident June Davis of the Walker Road was the guest of honor at the June 7th Selectmen's meeting. The occasion—the presentation of the Boston Post Cane to the town's oldest resident. Mrs. Davis celebrated her 92nd birthday on May 22nd, and a search through the voter registration file discovered she now holds the title. Her nephew, Merle Bragdon, a member of the town's budget committee, arranged to have friends and relatives at the Selectmen's meeting for the official presentation, followed by a reception at Gerald and Iris Simons' home afterwards. There were no empty chairs for the event.

Mrs. Davis and her late husband Elmer (Spud), established Associated Builders in Ellsworth, selling the company in the early 1970's. In an interview with the *Ellsworth American*, Mrs. Davis credited her longevity to a smoke-free life of moderation in food and drink. She said she doesn't give out advice—she learned the hard way about life, and others will just have to find out that way too.

The *Boston Post* newspaper many years ago gave canes to towns for their oldest residents. Mrs. Davis says while she's honored, she's a little reluctant to be known as Lamoine's oldest.



Select board chair Jo Cooper (left) presents the Boston Post Cane to June Davis at the June 7, 2012 Selectmen's meeting.

## Does Lamoine have a Building Code?

(Lamoine) - First, some apologies for the alphabet soup that follows in this article. As the headline implies, questions have been raised about Lamoine’s Building and Land Use Ordinance (BLUO). and what standard, if any applies. The Maine Legislature passed the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC) a few years ago. This mandated a statewide building code that is to be followed for all construction. It is a huge and extremely complex document.

MUBEC must be enforced by all municipalities with a population greater than 4,000. Lamoine’s population is 1,602 as of the last census. The town is not mandated to enforce MUBEC.

The BLUO, however, contains a few building requirements, among them a roofing requirement, siding requirement, and a requirement that the Building Inspector issue a certificate of occupancy when the project is up to the town’s BLUO standard. Some town officials believe that if any type of building code

appears in the BLUO, the MUBEC inspections are required. That could involve anywhere from 10-to-17 separate inspections during the construction project. The town has not been doing that.

The Selectmen have sought a legal opinion from Maine Municipal Association, and an attorney there has verbally advised that any building standard in the local ordinance must meet the MUBEC standard.

The Selectmen have asked the Planning Board for its opinion. Some favor adopting MUBEC, others favor dropping any local reference to a building code within the BLUO and not enforcing MUBEC as allowed by law. The issue may go before voters in the near future.

The complicating part is that many financial institutions require a building inspection. Homeowners can hire (at their own cost) what is known as a Third Party Inspector to conduct the MUBEC inspections which may satisfy lending institutions. Stay tuned.

## Gravel Ordinance Changes may go to Voters In November

(Lamoine) - The Planning Board continues to work on updating Lamoine’s Gravel Ordinance to provide more meaningful protection to the town’s overall landscape. Several workshop sessions of the board have been held in the past few months, but so far no draft ordinance has been developed for public comment.

Planning Board chair John Holt told the Board of Selectmen in June that the hope is to have something ready for a referendum vote on November 6, 2012. Several hearings, including a required public hearing on the proposed ordinance change, will be held prior to that vote. The Board has been carefully reviewing gravel extraction ordinances from the towns of Washington and Appleton in Knox County for ideas. Of particular concern to Planning Board is aquifer protection during the gravel mining process and restoration of the land once the mining activity stops.

## Commercial Changes Sought

(Lamoine) - A public hearing was set for July 2, 2012 on a pair of applications to change the use of structures in town to new commercial ventures.

Richard McMullen of Partridge Cove Road (the town’s plowing contractor), is proposing to sell farm equipment from his landscaping storage facility. While not adding any more buildings to the lot, McMullen says he intends to add more goods for sale to the operation. He is currently permitted for a landscaping business headquarters and a salt/sand storage shed.

Eric and Susan Hann have spent years renovating the former Bennett House on Lamoine Beach Road, with an eye on using it as a bed and breakfast. The application to convert that use has been deemed a commercial change of use, and will require Planning Board approval.

Both matters will go to public hearing on Monday, July 2, 2012 at 7PM. Abutters have been sent notices of the hearing and a copy of the plans is stored at the town office for public review. Following closure of the hearing, the Planning Board is likely to take action on the requests.

## General Assistance Ordinance Updated

(Lamoine) - The Board of Selectmen has adopted changes in eligibility levels for the town’s general assistance program as recommended by the Department of Health and Human Services. The Maine Legislature approved lowering the amount that households may receive in assistance by 10-percent during the last session. It also limits the number of months a household may receive housing assistance. Those changes take effect on July 1, 2012 statewide.

Lamoine’s General Assistance program is rarely used, though for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012 expenditures exceeded the \$3,000 budget for the first time in many years.

## Pits Permitted

(Lamoine) - Lamoine’s Planning Board approved renewals to the permits for local contractors Jay and Perry Fowler in the past quarter. Both pits are located off Douglas Highway, just north of the town office and now have permission to operate for another three years. Perry Fowler, an alternate member of the Planning Board excused himself from deliberation.

## No Waiting List for Mooring Field

(Lamoine) - A series of changes to Lamoine’s Harbor Ordinance several years ago has finally achieved the goal of eliminating the lengthy waiting list for mooring space. This May, the last of the folks on the waiting list was issued a mooring permit, and there are no pending applications for mooring space in front of Lamoine State Park

The ordinance increased the fee to \$50.00 and required that a mooring permit holder actually have a watercraft registered to them. The move eliminated so called “paper moorings”.

## Lingering Code Issues Resolved

(Lamoine) - Two zoning violations that had been on the running list for Code Enforcement follow up for a lengthy period of time have finally been dropped.

A subdivision off Douglas Highway that violated tree cutting standards in the Shoreland Zone long ago complied with an order to replant trees. The stipulations was that the trees had to survive for two years. An inspection this spring by CEO Dennis Ford found an adequate survival rate, and the owner was issued notice that they are in compliance.

The other violation was a deck that had been constructed on a vacant lot without a permit. Deputy CEO Mike Jordan visited the lot in the spring and found that the deck had been dismantled as ordered. The property owner also received notice that he was no longer in violation.

## Permit Business Picks Up

(Lamoine) - After a slow first quarter, business has started to perk up for Lamoine’s Code Enforcement Office. The following permits have been issued since the April, 2012 quarterly:

No.	Name	Project
5	Andros, Richard	Shed
6	Wyshak, Patricia	Deck
7	Lovett, Laurence	Deck
8	Young, Wendy	Steps to Shore
9	Nicholson, Wm.	Deck

10	Zito, Frank	Deck
12	Campbell, M.	Residence
13	Cousins, Craig	Home Occ./Garage
14	Hann, Eric	Shed
15	Manring, Glenn	Shed
16	Day, Joseph	Garage
17	Jewell, Duane	Sun Room

(permit # 11 was initially denied and subsequently reissued as #15 when a revised plan met ordinance requirements.)



**Wow—What a turnout!**

*The chow line wound around the entire gym at the Lamoine Consolidated School following the fire in March that destroyed the home of Nicole Berzinis and Sean McLaughlin and their sons. That remarkable turnout and the auction that followed raised more than \$8,400 to assist the family with living expenses until they can get back on their feet in a new home. The community fund raiser received good press coverage in local media. (Photo courtesy of Becky Mason)*

## Town Hall Fax Now 667-0572

(Lamoine) - The town hall is now utilizing a telephone line installed years ago to accommodate disabled voters for its dedicated fax line. That eliminates the need to put the business line (667-2242) on hold, getting to the fax machine, and hitting the start button. The machine picks up incoming faxes automatically.

A switch has been installed on the phone line going into the fax machine so that outgoing faxes will still be sent over the business line if they are not a local or toll free call.

The prompt for the change was a recall of the fax machine in the Administrative Assistant's office that was able to automatically pick up faxes after hours. That left the town office with just one machine.

## 2012/13 Clam Licenses Available

(Lamoine) - Recreational clam diggers can obtain their new "peck" licenses at the town hall for the 2012/13 season. Licenses expire on June 30, 2013. Any of the municipal offices in the multi-town regional Shellfishing agreement (Lamoine, Ellsworth, Trenton, Hancock, Franklin, Sullivan and Sorrento) can sell the recreational licenses. Commercial licenses can only be obtained at Ellsworth City Hall.

Recreational diggers are limited to one peck (8-quarts, approximately 15-18 pounds) per day. Family licenses are also available. Check with the town office for more license info and closure notices.

## Charges Filed in Shooting Death

(Lamoine) - An exhaustive investigation by the Maine State Police into a shooting incident on March 11, 2012 has resulted in an indictment against a 30-year old man who resided at the scene on Douglas Highway. Grand Jurors determined in June there was enough evidence to proceed to trial against Michael Carter.

Four men, including Carter, were wounded in the incident. Lawrence "Randy" Sinclair Jr. of Ellsworth died as a result of the gunshot wound to his head. Torrey Garland and Joshua McKinney have been released from the hospital since the shooting.

Carter is charged with murder, elevated aggravated assault, aggravated

assault and illegal possession of a firearm. He has an extensive criminal record, including drug trafficking, theft and hindering government administration. He was ordered held without bail at a hearing in late June and has been incarcerated since the indictment was returned against him in early June. .

If convicted of murder, Carter faces a minimum of 25-years in prison and a maximum of life behind bars. Maine does not have the death penalty.

An affidavit filed by investigators said a dispute over a paint job on Carter's truck preceded the shootings. Detectives also say Carter was intoxicated when he arrived at the hospital.

## Fire Station Boiler to be Replaced

(Lamoine) - The plumbing and heating contractor that has serviced the boiler at the Lamoine Fire Station for several years was the low bidder to replace the boiler with a new one. Dennis Louder Plumbing and Heating bid \$9,511 for the materials and labor to install the replacement heating system.

The Fire Department corporation will initially pick up the cost with a special town meeting to be called to reimburse the fire department from the town's surplus funds. Because the project was expected to cost in excess of \$5,000, town policy required that it be put out to bid. Only two companies submitted bids; the other was in excess of \$15,000. The boiler at the fire station is approximately 21-years old and has suffered several failures in recent years.

Chief Engineer Moe Oliver has also cautioned Selectmen that the radiant heat pipes in the apparatus floor are subject to chafing and possible leakage due to the water circulating through them. The new boiler will be installed in later summer, early fall.

## Budget Committee Chair Steps Down

(Lamoine) - Citing frustration by the town meeting process that occasionally overrides the recommendations of the Budget Committee, Hubene Brodie has resigned from the board. Her term would have expired on June 30, 2012, just a few months after Selectmen received her letter. Alternate Committee Member Cece Ohmart was appointed as a full voting member to replace Mrs. Brodie, who is also a former town clerk/tax collector for Lamoine. An alternate position is now open, and anyone interested in serving should contact the town office.

The budget committee generally begins meeting in September.

## Foreclosed Property Sold

(Lamoine) - The town sold a piece of tax acquired property to an Ellsworth couple whose family owns abutting land. Bidding was brisk; six were submitted by the deadline, and Frank (Mike) and Wendy Young submitted the highest written bid for land off Berry Cove Road at \$6,313. The minimum bid which covered all back taxes, fees and interest was \$1,700.

The town issued the quitclaim deeds to the Youngs in April following receipt of the bid price. The property will not appear back on the tax roles until the 2013 tax commitment because the town owned it as of April 1, 2012.

## Town Loses Merrill Boynton, WWII Vet

(Lamoine) - The former holder of Lamoine's Boston Post Cane died May 1st, just a few days shy of his 97th birthday. Boynton was a veteran of World War II and received a Purple Heart for wounds during the Battle of Anzio in 1944. He once served as a honor guard for

General George S. Patton.

Boynton has reportedly left his property to the Lamoine Baptist church, including his home and land on Shore Road. He and his wife Amanda had no children. He was awarded the Boston Post Cane in June, 2011.

## Voting Machine may be in Lamoine's Future

(Lamoine) - Depending on the cost, the Selectmen may be asked to purchase a vote counting machine. The November 2010 gubernatorial election took a toll on the ballot clerks. The Secretary of State's office required that each batch of ballots be counted twice to better verify the results. Between the high number of state and county races and a number of referendum questions, three 2-person ballot clerk teams were at work until about 4AM the next day.

It's estimated a voting machine could probably reduce the counting time to less than 2-hours. In avoided cost terms, such a machine could pay for itself in just a few elections.

The hesitation at this point comes from not knowing what to purchase. The Secretary of State's office is supposed to be making a recommendation on some standard for a ballot counting machine. Potentially, some assistance could be available, but we're told that will affect only larger precincts.

Any proposal for a ballot machine will be placed before the Budget Committee for analysis first, and there could be some operational costs such as programming and printing special ballots. Initial exploration of costs shows machines cost upwards of \$6,500.00.

## Tax Liens Increase

(Lamoine) - What is most likely a sign of the economic times may be the number of tax liens filed this spring. There were 113 properties that had not paid their 2011/12 property taxes in full by the June 14, 2012 deadline. The value of the liens was \$92,945. That represents a 59% increase in the number of liens from the 2010/11 taxes, and 41% increase in the value of the liens. Just 3-years ago the town only filed 48 tax liens with a value of just under \$41,000.

More than 2-dozen liens were placed on subdivision lots that were either sold to a new developer or unsold.

Under state law, the town must provide notice to new owners and mortgage holders on properties that have liens placed on them. The law also provides for automatic foreclosure to town ownership 18-months after the lien is filed. Two properties became town owned last year. One was sold back to the former owner, and the other was sold at auction.

Several liens for taxes due in 2010/11 remain unpaid. As of late June, there were still 28-liens that had balances due. The value on those was just over \$21,000. Notices will be sent in early November to those who have not yet paid the liens in full warning of the pending automatic foreclosure on the property as required by state law. Those having trouble paying may apply for a poverty or infirmity abatement to the Board of Selectmen.



*Lamoine still casts its ballots the old fashioned way—paper put into an official ballot box. Jo Wood casts her primary and RSU 24 Budget ballot on June 12, 2012 under the watchful eye of ballot clerk Joan Broussard.*

## Fireworks Legal, But Not at the Parks

(Lamoine) - Lawmakers have OK'd the use of consumer fireworks and even set hours when they can be fired off. There's a catch—if you use them, it has to be on your own property or with permission of the person whose property the fireworks are being used on.

The Selectmen have been mulling a local ordinance to govern the use of fireworks at the town parks (Lamoine Beach, Bloomfield Park, Marlboro Beach).

Lamoine State Park Manager Jay McIntosh says fireworks cannot be used at the state park because of the property limitation in the state law, and that limitation would apply to town parks.

The hesitation about a local ordinance comes in the enforcement end. Any violation of state law, such as use at a town park without permission of the town, is enforceable by the Sheriff's Department or the State Police.

## Firefighters Issued New Gloves, Helmets

(Lamoine) - Contributions to the non-profit Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department corporation have rolled in this spring after the members sent out their annual letter. The goal this year was to upgrade turnout gear, and the more than \$11,000 received as of late June has allowed for new helmets for firefighters as well as new gloves. A state forest service grant helped to pay for half of the gloves.

Chief George "Skip" Smith hopes to replace aging coat, bunker pants and boots in the coming months.

## Town Meeting Attendance Boost

(Lamoine) - Meadow Point resident Catherine deTuede has presented a list of suggestions to the Board of Selectmen she hopes might boost attendance at town meetings. Offers of a pot luck supper, child care, and a different time for the annual meeting are among the suggestions. Ms. deTuede will meet with the Selectmen in July to discuss her ideas. The town meeting in March was attended by 78 registered voters. There were no controversial measures on the warrant.

## Fire Calls Keep Dept. Hopping

(Lamoine) - A relatively dry start to the spring led to several wildfire calls in Lamoine. The most serious case was stopped just before it reached a mobile home on Francis Drive. For a couple of weeks in April burning was barred due to dry conditions. Rains alleviated that situation later in the month—in fact so much rain fell that the fire department responded to a flooded basement call on Shore Road in May. That was caused due to a partial collapse of a drain pipe that apparently runs under the road.

The department responded twice to Trenton—first for a structure fire on Oak Point Road that destroyed a barn but the nearby house was saved. The second call involved an accident with a propane powered bus which started leaking material on Route 3. The situation called for spraying water on the bus, which blocked traffic to and from Mt. Desert Island for 6-hours.

The department's boat was utilized twice. One assisted Orland and Ellsworth rescue crews with a medical call on Patten Pond in Ellsworth at 2:15 in the morning. The other involved a possible overturned kayak off Meadow Point. A search by the fire department and Coast Guard failed to turn up any kayaker in distress.

## Road Paving Less than Budgeted

(Lamoine) - The timing for a drop in crude oil prices was pretty good as paving prices came in significantly lower than budgeted for the spring road work. Lane Construction submitted a bid of \$79.20 per ton for pavement. The town meeting had approved a budget of \$95.00 per ton in March 2010.

The town paved a section of Mill Road from roughly the Cold Spring Water Company to Walker Road and a section of Shore Road from about Moose Run to Fox Run.

The total cost to pave came in at just under \$132,000 while the budget was \$145,540. The savings will be retained in the road fund.

## State Reduces Inspection Fine to \$0

(Lamoine) - The town will not have to pay any fine to the State of Maine after making efforts to comply with state and federal standards. All the issues identified during a surprise inspection in January have been successfully addressed. Many of those issue involved training for Fire Department personnel and the documentation of that training. Initially a \$700 fine had been proposed because some members had not attended hazardous materials training the previous year. That training was completed in April, and those who've not been able to get to training have received letters from the fire chief asking them not to respond until they've been adequately trained in the eyes of the state . The department found that testing all 7,200 feet of hose was a daunting task and hired an outside company to conduct that process.



*A much smoother ride awaits motorists who use Mill Road and Shore Road. Above, crews from Lane Construction even out the pavement set at the intersection of Mill and Walker Roads.*



*Testing....testing.... Above, a technician makes the annual test on the Lamoine Fire Department airpicks. Below, hose is tested for leaks by a Connecticut company.*



## New Picnic Tables to be Installed @ Beach

(Lamoine) - The town's parks commission plans to install a half dozen new picnic tables at Lamoine Beach sometime this summer when a work bee can be planned for a day that it's not raining.

The picnic tables, approved by the annual town meeting to replace the current set which has started to decay around the galvanized legs, arrived in town in a rainstorm in early May. The pressure treated lumber was extremely damp, and have spent a few weeks drying out before the new, heavy duty, tables are assembled and installed. The tables cost just under \$2,000 delivered. The major components were stored at the former Anderson Garage until the Commission could get them assembled and delivered to Lamoine Beach Park.

## 2012/13 Budgets Down

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's share of the RSU 24 budget will be slightly less than the pervious fiscal year, and the amount of property tax needed to fund the non-education, non-county side of the budget is down sharply as well. It's estimated the assessors will need to raise about \$32,600 less in property taxes to cover the 2012/13 budget. If the property values stay the same, that could result in a decrease in the town's mill rate from 9.5 mills (\$9.50 per 1,000 valuation to around 9.4 mills. If more new value is added to the books from construction projects, the mill rate could drop even further.

## Sweeping Complete, More Flags Ordered

(Lamoine) - The weather took its toll over the past year on both the road surfaces and the flags the town hangs from utility poles in the summer. The town hired Richard Snyder to sweep the roads and parking lots—he was by far the low bidder. Mr. Snyder swept the roads 2-years ago.

Wind and sun have not been kind to the utility pole flags. Many were ripped beyond repair last year, sometimes getting hung up on splinters and wires, and the wind whipped them hard. The town replaced roughly 20-flags and ten poles when installing the flags this spring.



*Selectman Cynthia Donaldson and her husband Gordon helped to refurbish the three flower garden spots around the Lamoine Town Hall. Bricks were installed in the garden around the south side flagpole to allow better access to raise and lower the flag. New timbers were installed around one of the flower beds to give it more stability. New mulch and some new plants (donated by the Donaldsons) were placed in the gardens which are flourishing.*

# Illegal Dumping on the Increase



*What appears to be parts from a swimming pool mysteriously appeared on the road leading to the former landfill site over the winter.*

(Lamoine) - Some of the back woods of Lamoine (and many other towns) have become attractive for people trying to avoid the cost of waste disposal. Truckloads of trash occasionally turn up, and it's messy to clean up, harmful to the environment, and illegal.

Town employees have cleaned up carpeting remnants and parts of a swimming pool filter/heater system in recent months that appeared on the road

leading to the cell phone tower, and a pile of tiers dumped beside a gravel pit area on Mill Road.

The Maine Forest Service is tasked with investigating illegal dumping complaints in the woods. Rangers say calls have been on the increase recently, and a couple of cases in Hancock County could result in hefty fines against the accused dumpers—far in excess of the disposal cost.

# More Road Signs Returned

(Lamoine) - Sometime back in 2010 someone swiped the town line signs from Lamoine and Ellsworth on Buttermilk Road, along with an adopt-a-highway sign, and a few street signs. They were long since replaced. In early June, the signs reappeared at the town hall when an unidentified man dropped them off. He found them disposed of along the Stabawl Road in Ellsworth. Several signs swiped from the City of Ellsworth were also returned. The signs will be kept in the town's storage garage in case they're needed to replace the current ones.



# Heating Fuel Bids Sought

(Hancock) - The Selectmen have once again approved of joining with the Selectmen in Hancock in seeking heating fuel prices for the coming winter. Last year the two towns jointly bid the heating oil for their town halls and fire station facilities, and the low bid was \$3.319 per gallon. This year offers are coming in at less than \$3.00 per gallon thanks to the drop in crude oil prices.

Hancock's Board will handle the bid solicitation and opening this year (Lamoine did it last year). Bids are due to the Hancock Town Office by July 9th, and the Selectmen in Lamoine should know the price in time for their July 12th meeting.

The town hall typically uses about 1,000 gallons of fuel in a winter and the fire station budgets for 1,500 gallons. The mild winter last year saw less used at the town hall, but fire station use was up, likely due to issues with the heating system at the facility.

# Conservation Commission Plans Busy Summer

*By Larry Libby*

(Lamoine) - Completion of the Open Space Inventory is still at the top of the LCC agenda. Under Fred Stocking's leadership, all sections of the report are in draft form, written by Commission members. The final report will go to the Planning Board and will then be presented to the public for comment.

Vicki Rea, RN from the Maine Center for Disease Control, made an excellent public presentation on deer ticks and Lyme Disease at the town hall. The presentation was shown on cable and is available on DVD for those who missed it.

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, the Commission's monthly meeting will focus on trails in Lamoine. Several town residents who have special knowledge of existing or potential trails that would be attractive to residents have been invited to contribute to this session. The public, as always, is welcome to attend and to share their thoughts on how trails could become a more important asset for the town. Primary purpose of the meeting will be to inventory existing trails, consider ways to improve them and consider any possibilities for new trails. Is the time right to establish a Trails Committee for Lamoine? Please let us know.

The August meeting will move outdoors to walk a favorite trail together and perhaps end with a picnic. The time, place, and trail will be announced when it is determined during our July session. Watch for flyers and a notice via Town email.

## *On Patrol—for Litter*

*(From Left) Mark Munsell, Alice French and Herb Watson bagged a lot of trash they found along the roadsides of Mud Creek and Partridge Cove Roads this spring. Thanks to the many Adopt A Road Vounteers.*



*April showers pretty much missed us, but then, it rained in May. A lot. Here, a driveway off Jordan River Road suffers flood damage after heavy rains overwhelmed the culverts running under the drive at high tide.*

## Fire Department Auction set for August 24

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's firefighters are currently seeking items for the annual auction which will be held on Friday, August 24, 2012 at the Lamoine School Gym. Bidding begins at 6:00 PM, a preview of the auction items begins an hour earlier.

Our volunteer auctioneer once again is Chas Hare of Stockton Springs who is the EMS Director for that community and a professional auctioneer. Chas has graciously volunteered to handle the auction for many years.

## Community Arts News

*By Carol Korty*

(Lamoine) - Lamoine Community Arts enjoyed a new venue in May by holding our Readers' Theater at the Lamoine School. LCA member Rae Dumont directed *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe* by Jane Wagner, adapted from a one woman show by Lily Tomlin to include 11 actors. The new black drapes worked very well for us in the school's Jina Gym.

In early August a few LCA members are planning a free 3-day craft activity for children. The event will be August 6, 7, and 8 from 9-12 noon at the Lamoine town beach.. A variety of crafts will be available including acrylic painting, small crafts using plaster of paris, puppet-making, and using natural materials to make a small plaque. Children can come for one day or everyday and there will be a break in the midst of the morning for a nature walk. Parental supervision is required.

Our annual meeting will take place on Monday, August 13<sup>th</sup>. The LCA reading committee is working on the selection of the play (or plays) for the fall production at the Grange, and an announcement of that selection will be given at our annual meeting. We will have a social time with refreshments at 6:30p and the meeting at 7p which includes the election of the Board. Everyone is invited to come to this meeting; new people are always welcome. There are many ways to participate in LCA, and we hope to see you there.

For more information about LCA and our summer activities, call Diane Sanderson at 667-7969.

## Cub Scouts Assist with Flag Distribution

(Lamoine) - The Selectmen thanked Lamoine's local Cub Scout pack for placing American flags on the graves of veterans buried at the two largest cemeteries in Lamoine. The scouts fanned out before Memorial Day in Forest Hill Cemetery and East Lamoine Cemetery to make sure each grave identified as being a military veteran was adorned with a flag as required by state law.

The town purchases 144 flags each year for display at the graves. Next year

Folks who would like to donate useful things for the 2012 auction may call auction chair Joe Young (667-7199) or Stu Marckoon at the town hall (667-2242) to arrange for drop-off or possible pickup. The fire department is unable to take all items, especially appliances, furniture, and building materials. These items typically do not sell at the auction and are costly to dispose of.

The Lamoine Grange plans to offer sandwiches and desserts again at the auction .

## Staff Contracts Renewed

(Lamoine) - The Selectmen have renewed employment contracts with Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Jennifer Kovacs and Transfer Station Manager Bill Fennelly. The Administrative Assistant's contract is a 3-year deal, running through June 2016. The other two positions are annual contracts.

All three positions received pay raises as recommended by the Budget Committee and under budgets approved by the annual town meeting.

Marckoon will complete his 20th year as the Adm. Asst. next January. Ms. Kovacs will start her 10th year as Clerk/Collector in September. Fennelly has run the transfer station the past four years.

A fire call during the June 21, 2012 Selectmen's meeting precluded performance reviews from being conducted with two other contracted staff. Those will be done in July.

*Memorial Day  
2012  
Retired Coast  
Guardsmen (l-r)  
Arthur Alley,  
Clifton Smith  
and Carleton  
Brodie  
participated in  
the Memorial  
Day Ceremony  
in front of the  
Veterans  
Memorial at the  
Town Hall*



*Photo Courtesy of Mary Alley*

## Honor Grads Honored

(Lamoine) - The class of 2012 had plenty of Lamoine students receive their high school diplomas while adorned with honors cords. Selectmen issued certificates of commendation to:

### ***Ellsworth High School***

- Evan Boudreau
- Marissa Boynton
- Joseph Branch
- Ashley Harding
- Kyle Haslam
- Jessica Lawley

### ***MDI High School***

- Malarie Brown
- Julia Christie
- Hannah Tardiff

## Big Scholarships, Few Applicants

(Lamoine) - Only four college students from Lamoine applied for the Allen and Leurene Hodgkins Scholarship this year, and all were recommended for funding by the Board of Selectmen. The fund, administered by the Maine Community Foundation, had nearly \$20,000 available for distribution. The scholarship recommendations ranged from \$3,500 to \$6,000. Students receiving notice awards attend the University of New England in Biddeford, Thomas College in Waterville, Maine Maritime Academy in Castine and Castleton State College in Vermont. Applications were available on-line and due by June 1st.

### ***The Lamoine Quarterly***

#### **Publisher**

*The Lamoine Board of Selectmen*

#### **Editor/Writer**

*Stuart Marckoon, Adm. Asst.*

Published four times a year by the Town of Lamoine, 606 Douglas Highway, Lamoine, Maine 04605. Subscriptions are available for \$4.00 per year to have a copy mailed. Copies are available at the Lamoine Town Hall for free, and articles are reproduced on the Internet at [www.lamoine-me.gov](http://www.lamoine-me.gov). The *Lamoine Quarterly* does not accept paid advertising.

# July 2012– Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2-6:30 PM Planning Board	3-9AM Board of Assessors	4-Office Closed—Holiday	5	6	7-Office open 8-12
8	9	10-4PM RSU 24 Withdrawal Cmte.	11-7PM Conservation Commission	12-7PM Selectmen	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28-Office open 8-12
29	30	31	The Administrative Assistant is on vacation the week of July 23—the town office will be closed at lunch during that week.			

# August 2012-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
The Fire Department meets weekly on Wednesdays at 7PM at the Fire Station. The Administrative Assistant will be out of the office August 21 and August 27-31 so the office will be closed at lunch those days.			1-7PM Assessors	2-7PM Selectmen	3	4-Office Open 8-12
5	6	7-7PM Planning Board	8-Conservation Commission Trail Walk	9	10	11
12	13	14	15-Shellfish Conservation Cmsn.	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24-6PM Fire Department Auction	25-Office Open 8-12
26	27	28	29	30	31	

# September 2012-Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1-Town Office Open 8-12
2	3-Office Closed, Labor Day	4-7PM Planning Board (School opens)	5-7PM Assessors	6-7PM Selectmen	7	8
9	10	11	12-7PM Conservation Commission	13	14	15
16	17-(tentative) Budget Committee Organizational Mtg.	18	19-7PM Shellfish Conservation	20-7PM Selectmen	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29-Town Office open 8-12
30	The RSU 24 Withdrawal Committee schedule has not been determined. Consult the town’s website for meeting schedules for all boards and committees.					

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July 2012

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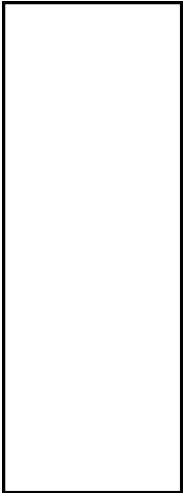
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Town of Lamoine  
606 Douglas Highway  
Lamoine, ME 04605